# Growing Our Nonprofit Partnerships! Organizational Development for Forest Service Partners



Project Title	Growing Our Nonprofit Partnerships! Organizational Development for Forest Service Partners
Project Summary	Develop organizational development tools and resources to help our partners become more sustainable and organized, and potentially grow into a "Friends" group (for example, "Friends of the Daniel Boone National Forest"). Our nonprofit partners are vital in the management of national forest lands.
Country	United States

# **Project Description**

The USDA Forest Service's Regional Office is seeking one or more interns to complete the following tasks:

- 1. Research "Friends" groups of other land management agencies (e.g. National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks).
- Find case studies of impactful "Friends" groups; research how they are structured and what helps them be successful and sustainable.
- Create a best practice resource for forests, districts, and partners.
- Create a resource that identifies challenges and limitations encountered by Friends Groups at different organizational stages.
- 2. Research resources for nonprofits to improve their financial stability, develop a sustainable organizational structure, and formalize their group into a 501 organization.
- Develop a resource/flowchart to assist an organization in deciding which type of 501 classification is best suited for their organization.
- Develop a tool/flowchart on how to become a formalized 501C3 (and possibly other types of 501s if that could be a good fit).
- 3. Create a list of training opportunities for emerging or growing nonprofit organizations.
- Gain an understanding of the organizations that offer training and mentoring for growing or emerging nonprofits (e.g. Public Lands Alliance).
- Create a table/list of the most effective organizations, their mission, their training and mentoring opportunities.
- 4. Complete a presentation of your findings to Forest Service employees engaged in partnership work and possibly key agency partners .
- Develop a PowerPoint and other supporting documents to deliver your presentation.

## **Required Skills or Interests**

Skill(s)
Editing and proofreading
Research
Writing

### **Additional Information**

We are looking for an individual who ideally has an interest in nonprofit management, public administration, government affairs, or organizational development. Qualified candidates should have strong research and writing skills, an ability to work collaboratively, and a high degree of self-motivation. The completion of these projects will support the wise management of public lands.

Volunteers will be signed up under Individual Volunteer Agreements (OF-301a). All Volunteers are asked to record their hours worked on this project and will be reported in the Volunteer & Service Programs Accomplishments Database (VSReports), the official reporting database.

## **Language Requirements**

None